



Forest Action Plan

June 2020

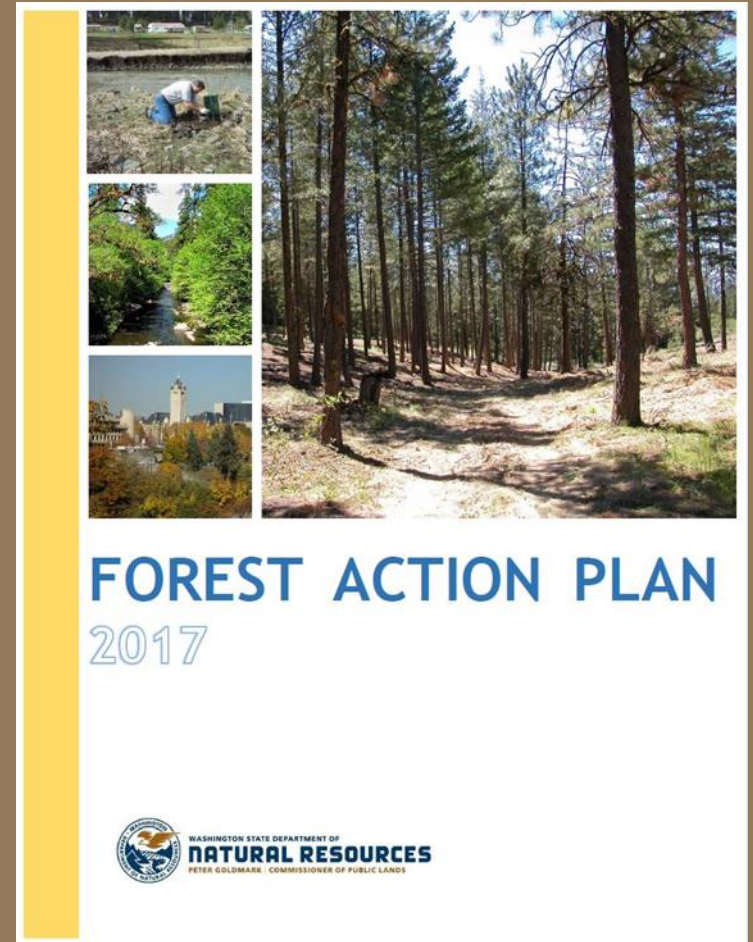
Forest Action Plan

Washington's Forest Action Plan is a comprehensive review of forests across all lands — public, private, rural and urban — that offers proactive solutions to conserve, protect and enhance the trees and forests that people and wildlife depend on.



Forest Action Plan

- Requirement established by Congress in 2008.
- Washington State Forest Action Plan released in 2010 and revision published in 2017.
- In FY2018 Washington State DNR received \$12.8M to fund 8 cooperative forestry programs.



Cooperative Forestry Programs

- Community Forestry and Open Space
- Cooperative Lands – Forest Health Management
- Forest Legacy
- Forest Stewardship
- Landscape Scale Restoration
- State Fire Assistance
- Urban and Community Forestry
- Volunteer Fire Assistance



2020 Forest Action Plan

Key Objectives

1. Align strategies, goals, and priority actions across DNR programs and with our partners.
2. Reinforce DNR commitment to existing strategic plans and clarify the linkages between current plans.
3. Identify geographic priorities for Shared Stewardship in Western Washington.



2020 Forest Action Plan

Planning Process Core Tenets

- Develop the plan collaboratively.
- Respect diverse partner interests.
- Utilize peer reviewed science.
- Identify implementable milestones.
- Publish a plan that is user-friendly.



Partner Engagement

Public Survey

Direct Outreach

Review and Contributors Team

Technical Panel

Forest Action Plan Webinars



Survey Results Snapshot

- Survey open October 15 – December 31, 2019.
- 361 responses
- Snowball sampling method
- Snapshot in time to understand partner and public interests related to Forest Action Plan

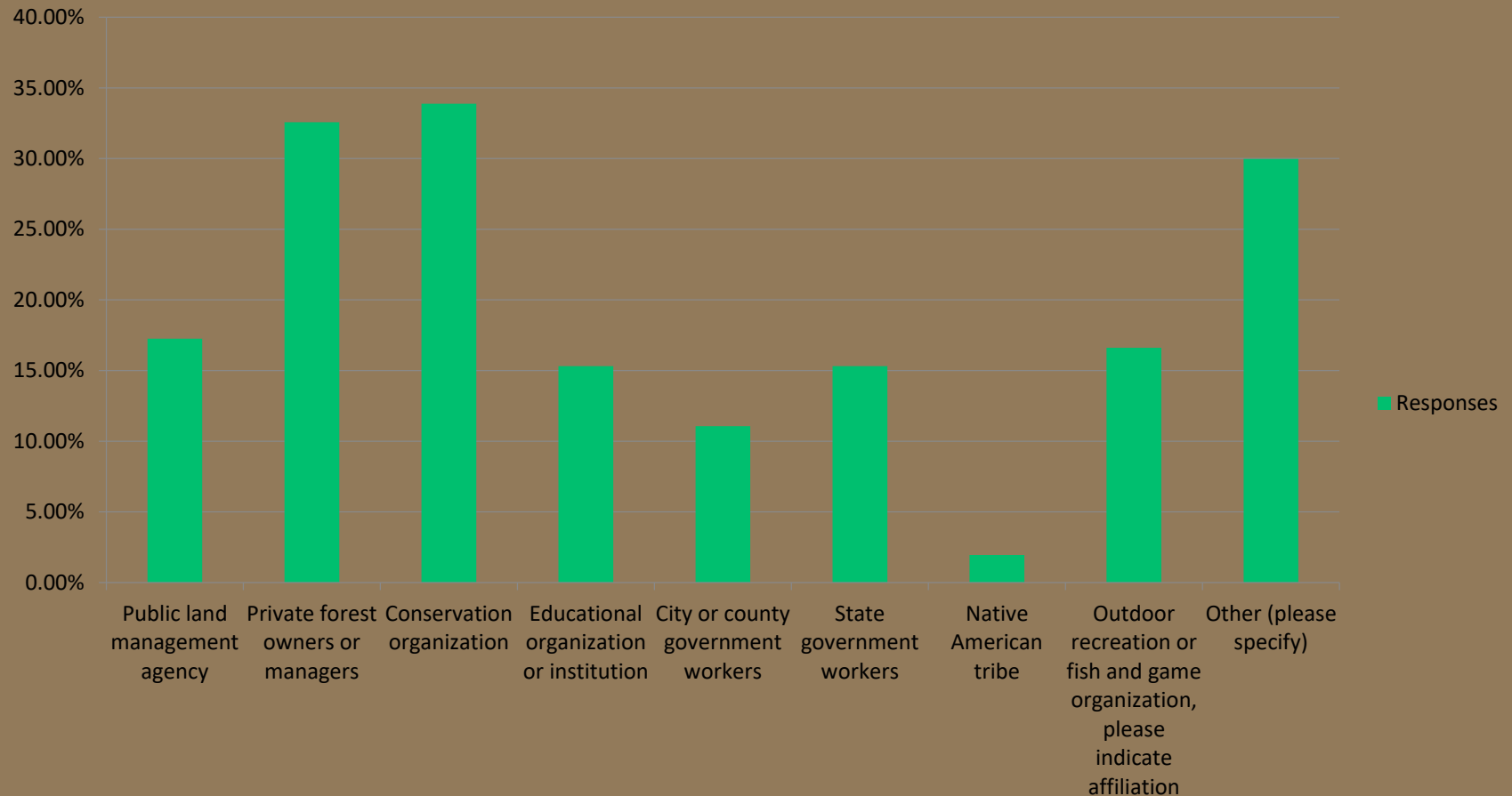


Photo credit: NNRG



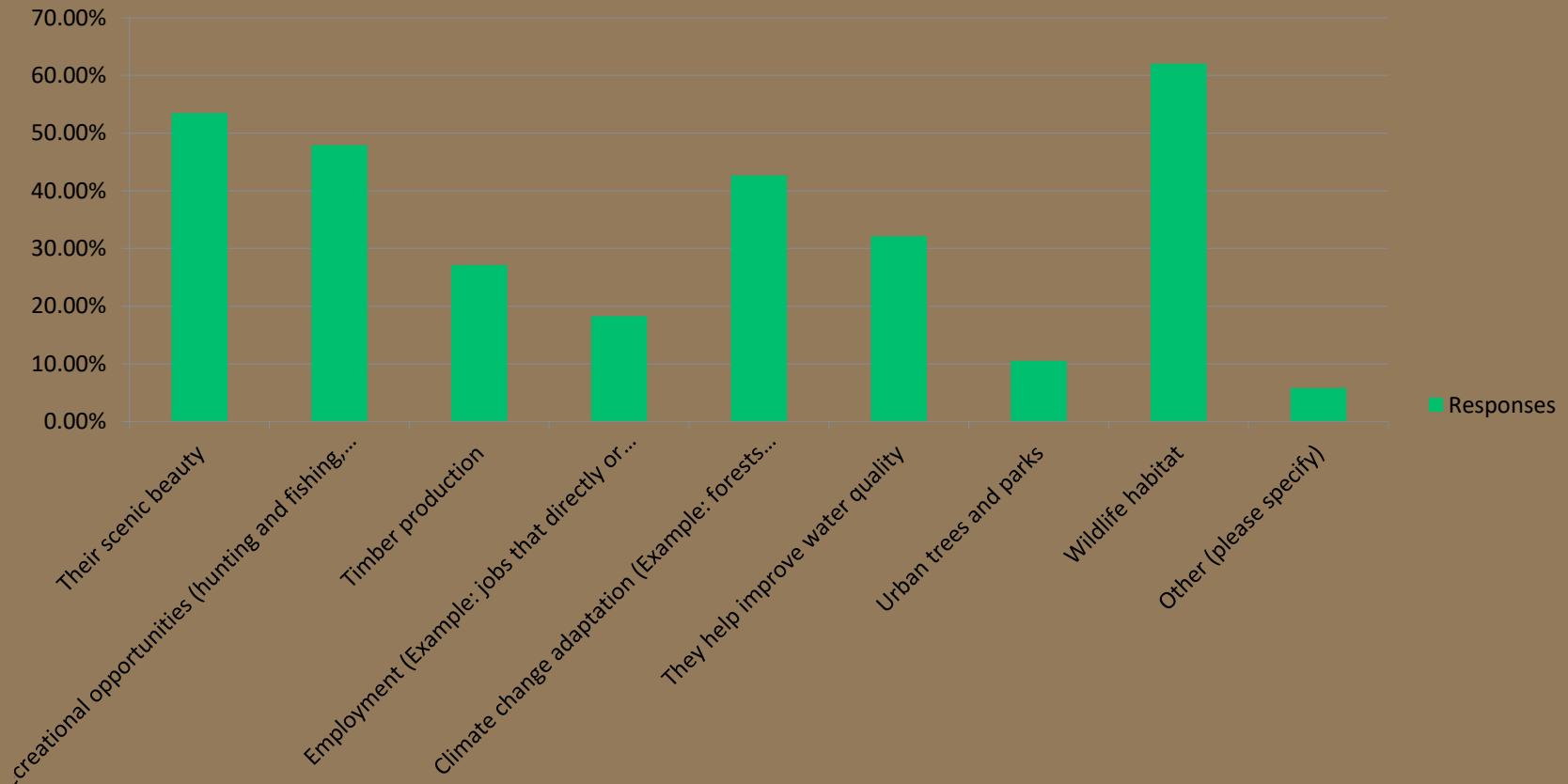
Forest Action Plan Survey

Do you belong to any of the following organizations or groups?
(Check all that apply)



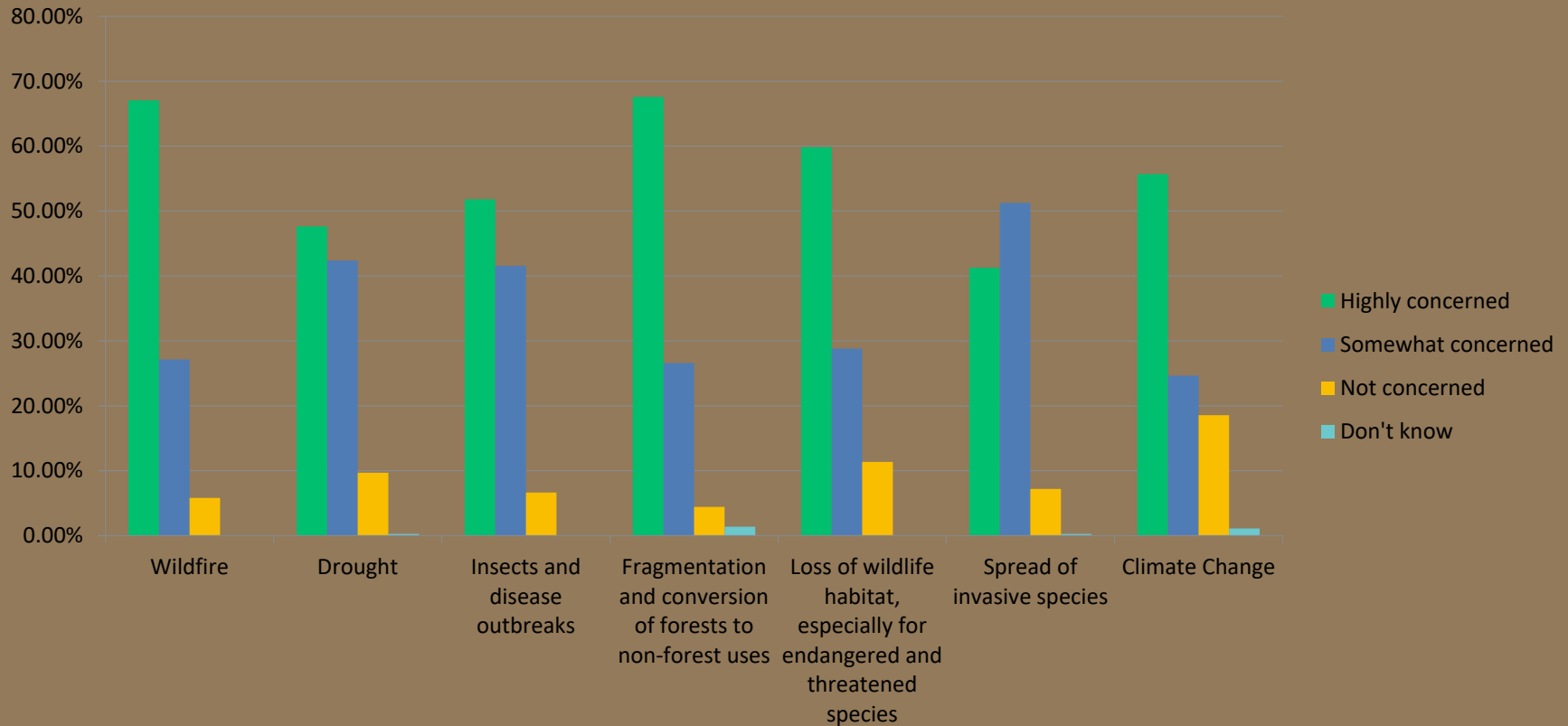
Forest Action Plan Survey

What do you enjoy and appreciate most about Washington's forests? (Select exactly three boxes)



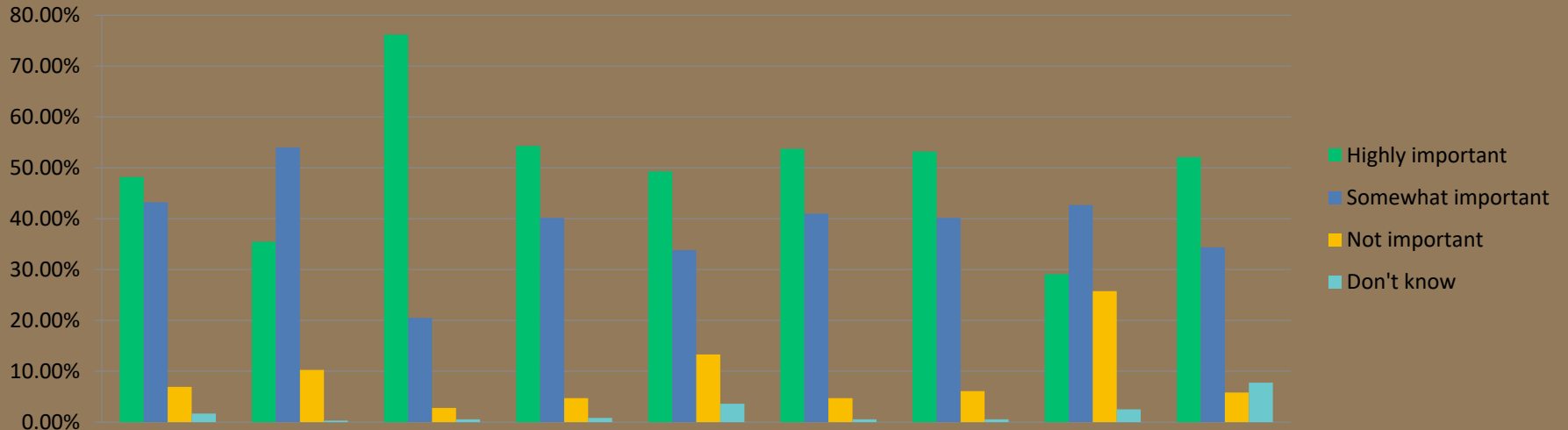
Forest Action Plan Survey

Scientists and policy makers have identified the following threats facing forests in the western United States. Of those, please indicate your level of concern.



Forest Action Plan Survey

To overcome the threats facing our forests, indicate which of the following actions Washington DNR should prioritize

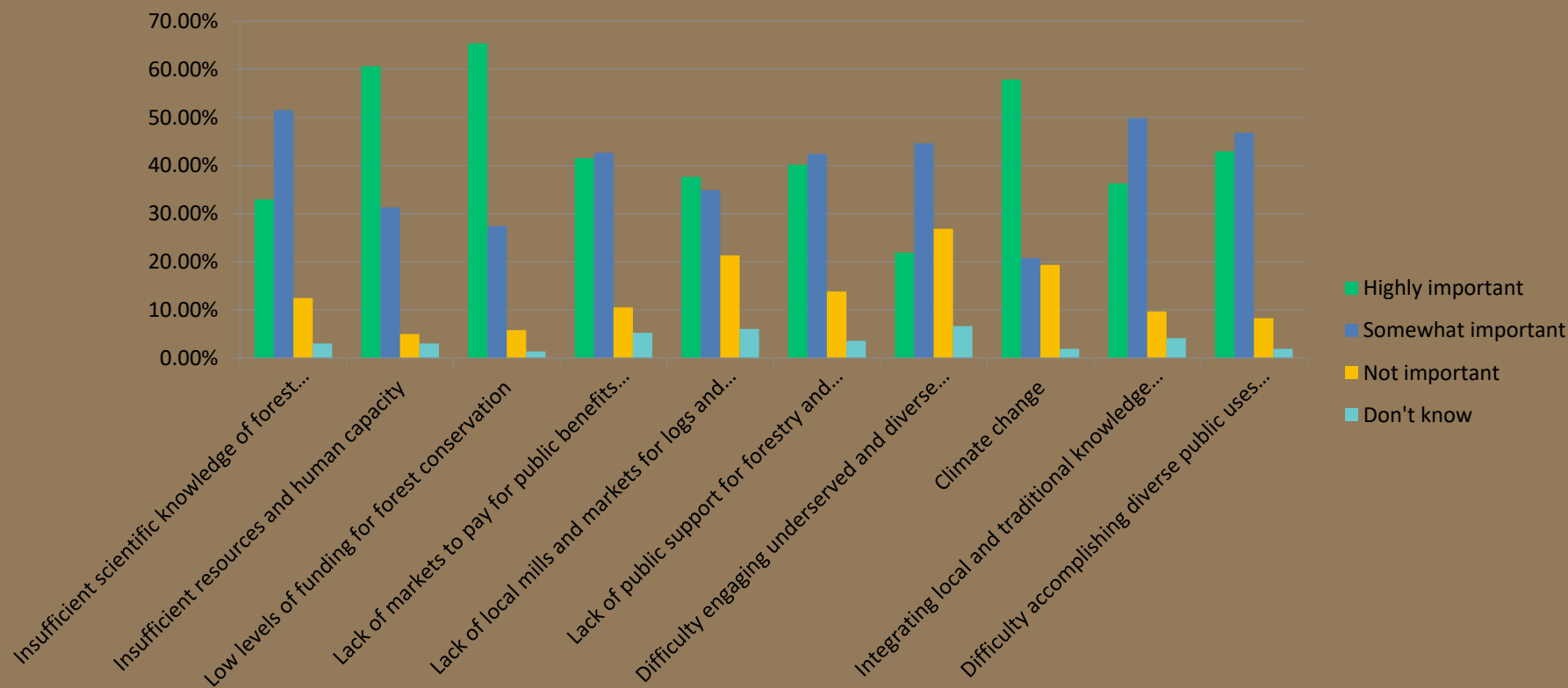


	Highly Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Conduct scientific research	48.20%	43.21%	6.93%	1.66%
Convene and host informational and educational events with the public	35.46%	54.02%	10.25%	0.28%
Conduct restoration activities such as thinning unnaturally dense forests	76.18%	20.50%	2.77%	0.55%
Provide technical support to private and family forestland owners	54.29%	40.17%	4.71%	0.83%
Fund land conservation efforts such as paying for conservation easements	49.31%	33.80%	13.30%	3.60%
Help prepare communities for future wildfire events	53.74%	41.00%	4.71%	0.55%
Partner with state and local fire districts to ensure safe and effective fire suppression	53.19%	40.17%	6.09%	0.55%
Plant and manage trees in urban and community settings	29.09%	42.66%	25.76%	2.49%
Implement current plans (20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan, Wildland Fire Protection 10-Year Strategic Plan, Evergreen Community Act legislation, etc.)	52.08%	34.35%	5.82%	7.76%



Forest Action Plan Survey

There are a number of challenges facing natural resource managers, whether they manage federal, state, local, tribal, industrial or family forestland. Please indicate the level of importance in addressing the following management challenges



Shared Stewardship

1. use best available science,
2. use all authorities, programs, and tools,
3. identifying priority landscapes,
4. use existing strategies and plans to guide work,
5. target investments at scale,
6. foster strong partnerships, and
7. innovate, be willing to take measured risks

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

State of Washington
Department of Natural Resources
And
Department of Fish and Wildlife

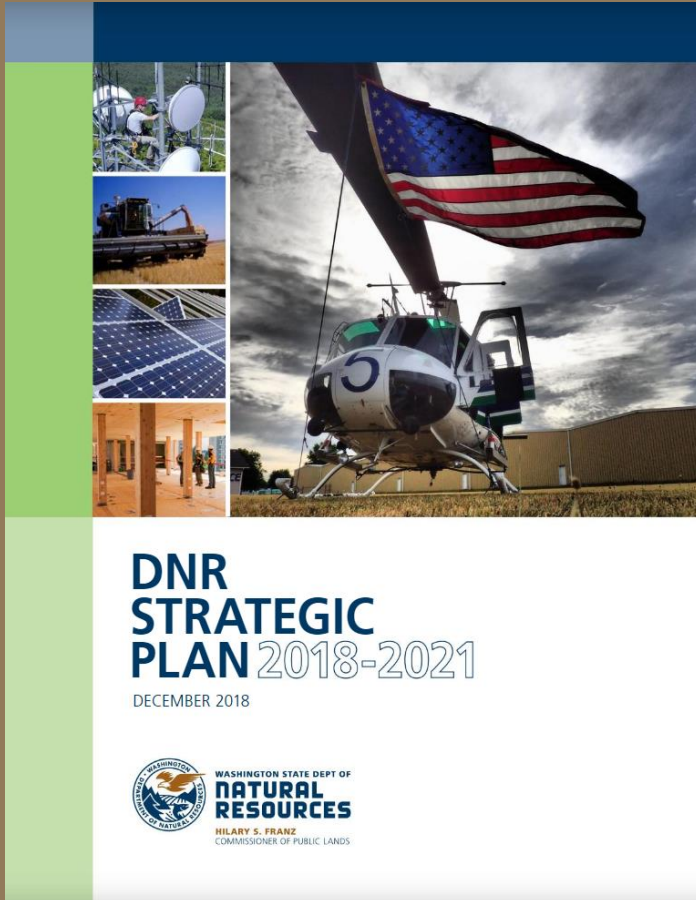
And
US Forest Service

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is hereby made and entered into by and between the Washington Department of Natural Resources hereinafter referred to as "DNR," Washington



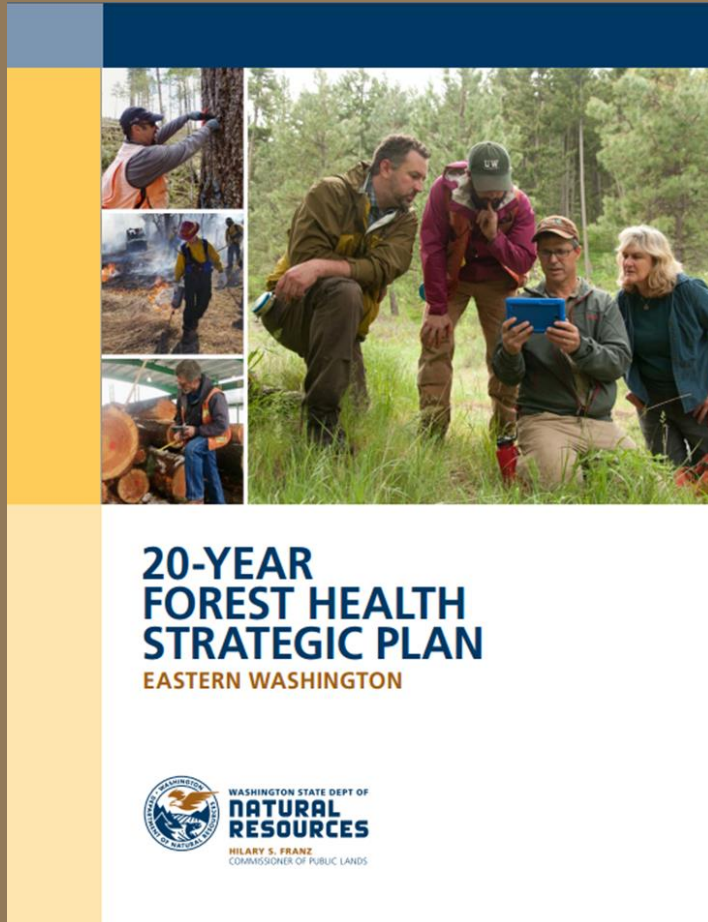
DNR Strategic Plan

1. Make DNR a great place to work and serve Washington's Lands and Communities
2. Build Strong and Healthy Communities
3. Enhance Forest Health and Wildfire Management
4. Strengthen the health and resilience of our lands and waters
5. Increase public engagement and commitment to our public lands

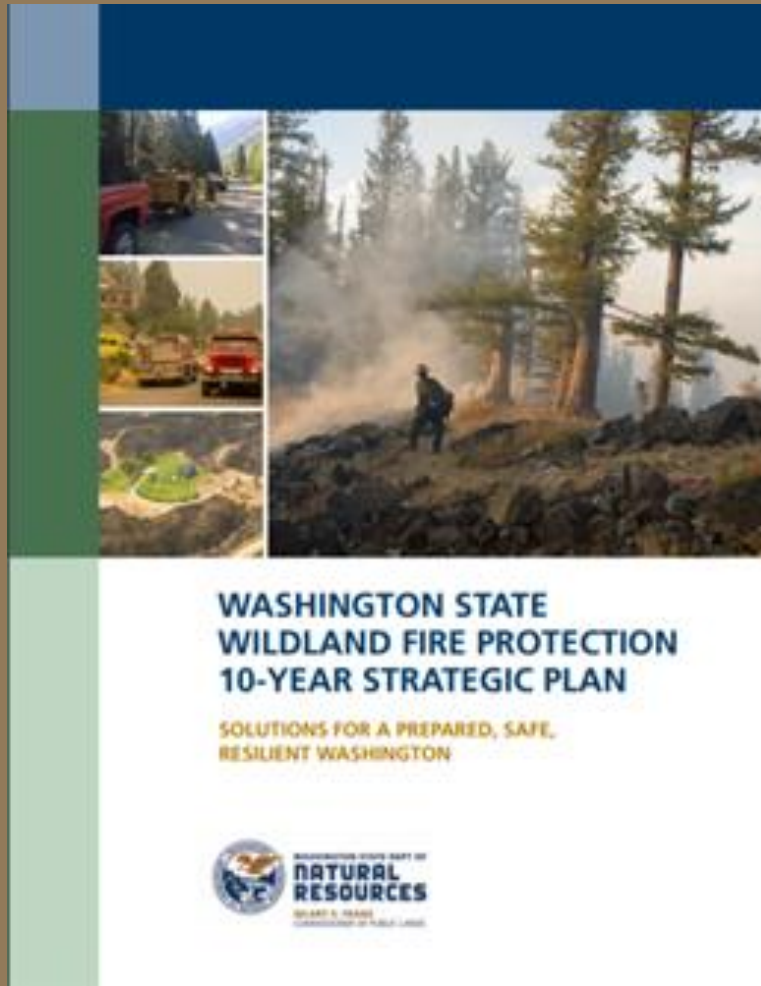


20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan

- 1.25 million acres treated by 2037
- Reduce risk of uncharacteristic wildfire and other disturbances
- Enhance economic development
- Integrate landowner objectives and responsibilities
- Develop and implement a monitoring program



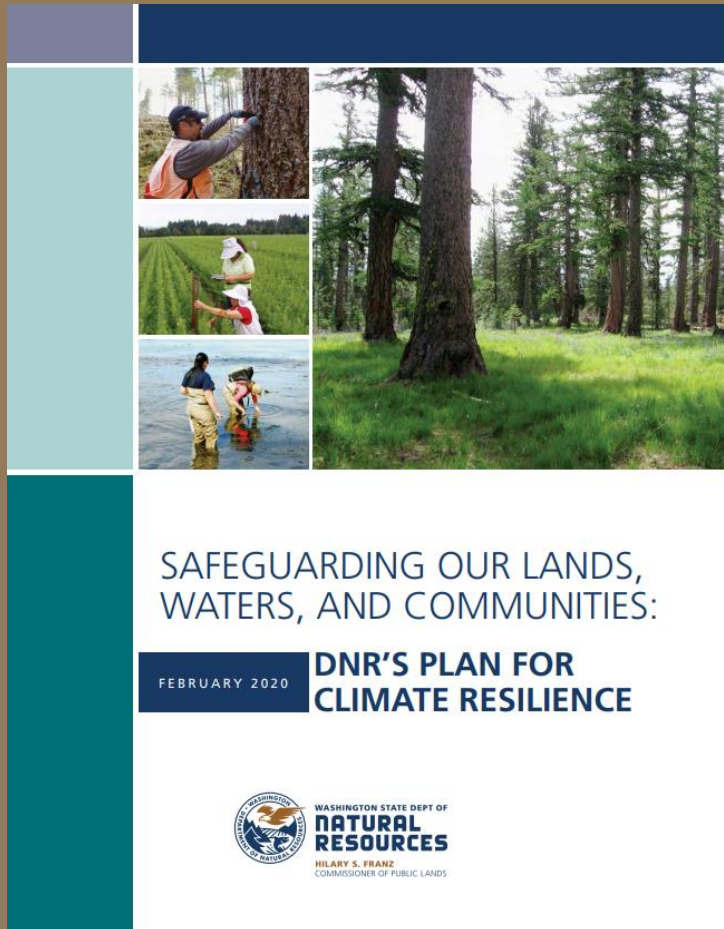
10-Year Wildland Fire Protection Plan



1. Fully capable, integrated and sustainable systems.
2. Resilient landscapes.
3. Communities are prepared & adapted – now and in the future.
4. Response is safe and effective.



Climate Resilience Plan



“highlights actions the agency can take to ensure it is prepared
...and identifies high-priority opportunities to support coordination, investment, and implementation among DNR and its partners”



State Wildlife Action Plan

WASHINGTON'S
STATE WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN
2015 Update



Prepared by the
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
September, 2015



...identify conservation priorities and statewide actions and strategies, provide tools and information to support conservation work, and foster collaboration among organizations and entities.



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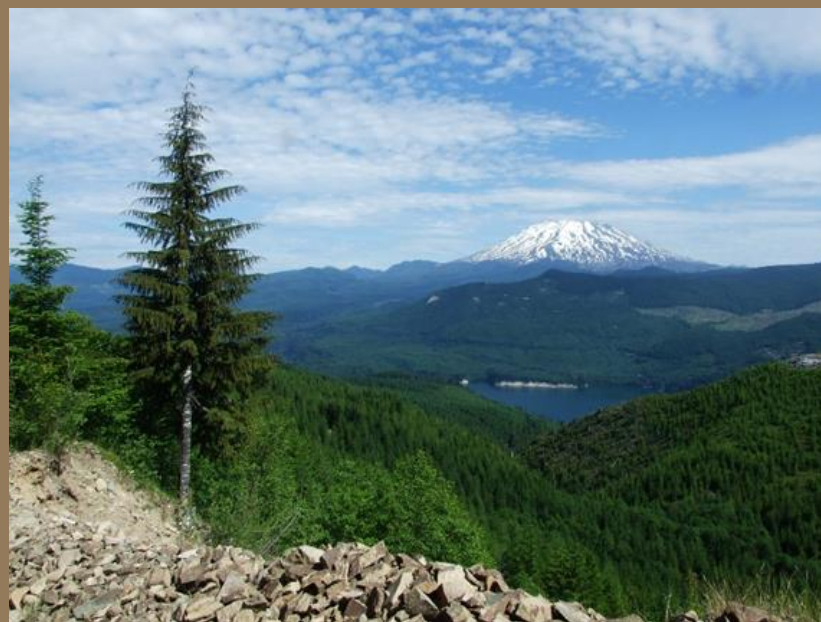
Strategic Plans and Guidance

- **USDA Forest Service National Priorities and local management**
- **Conservation District Long Range Plans**
- **WA Dept of Ecology Integrated Climate Response Strategy**
- **Tribal Climate Adaptation Plans**
- **Prescribed Fire Report**
- **Yakima Basin Integrated Plan**
- **Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan**
- **Bipartisan Outdoor Recreation Confluence Accord**
- **National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy**
- **etc.**



2020 Forest Action Plan

- Threats, Issues and Opportunities
- Goals and Priority Actions
- Identification of Geographic Priorities



Threats, Issues, and Opportunities

1. Climate Change
2. Insect and Disease
3. Drought
4. Wildfire
5. Invasive Species
6. Conversion



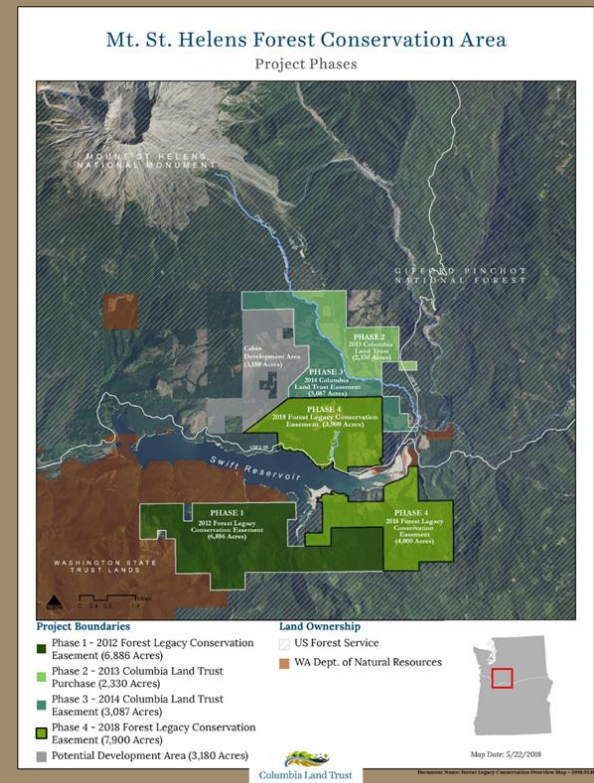
Forest Action Plan: Goals

1. Landscape Resilience
2. Community Wildfire Preparedness and Wildfire Suppression
3. Keeping Forests as Forest: Risk of Conversion to Non-Forest Uses
4. Urban and Community Forest Resilience
5. Rural Economic Development
6. Stewardship of Family and Working Forests
7. Wildlife and Salmon Recovery
8. Water Quality and Quantity

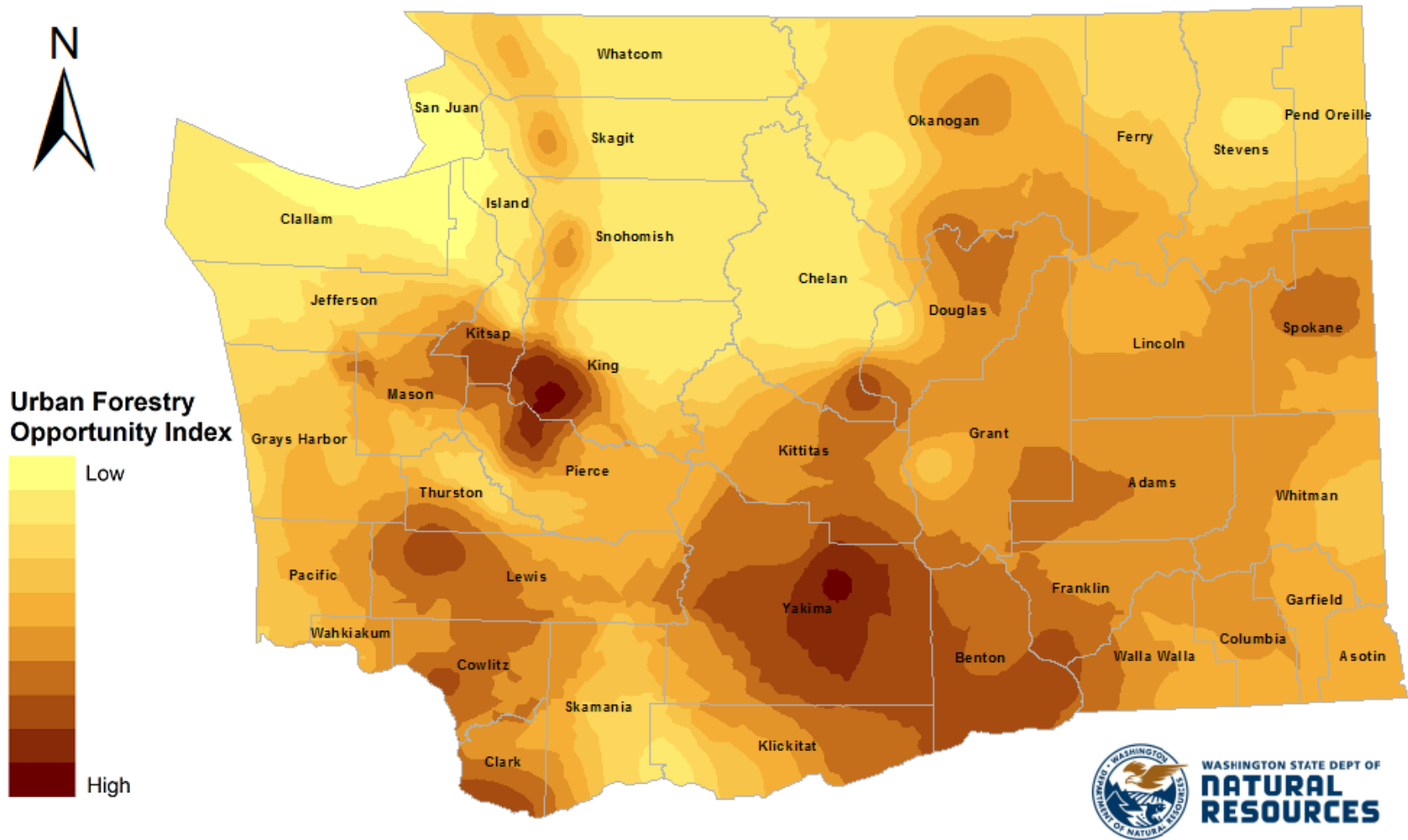


Forest Action Plan Maps

- Urban and Community Forestry
- Landscape Resilience
- Forest Stewardship



DNR Urban Forestry Program Opportunity Areas



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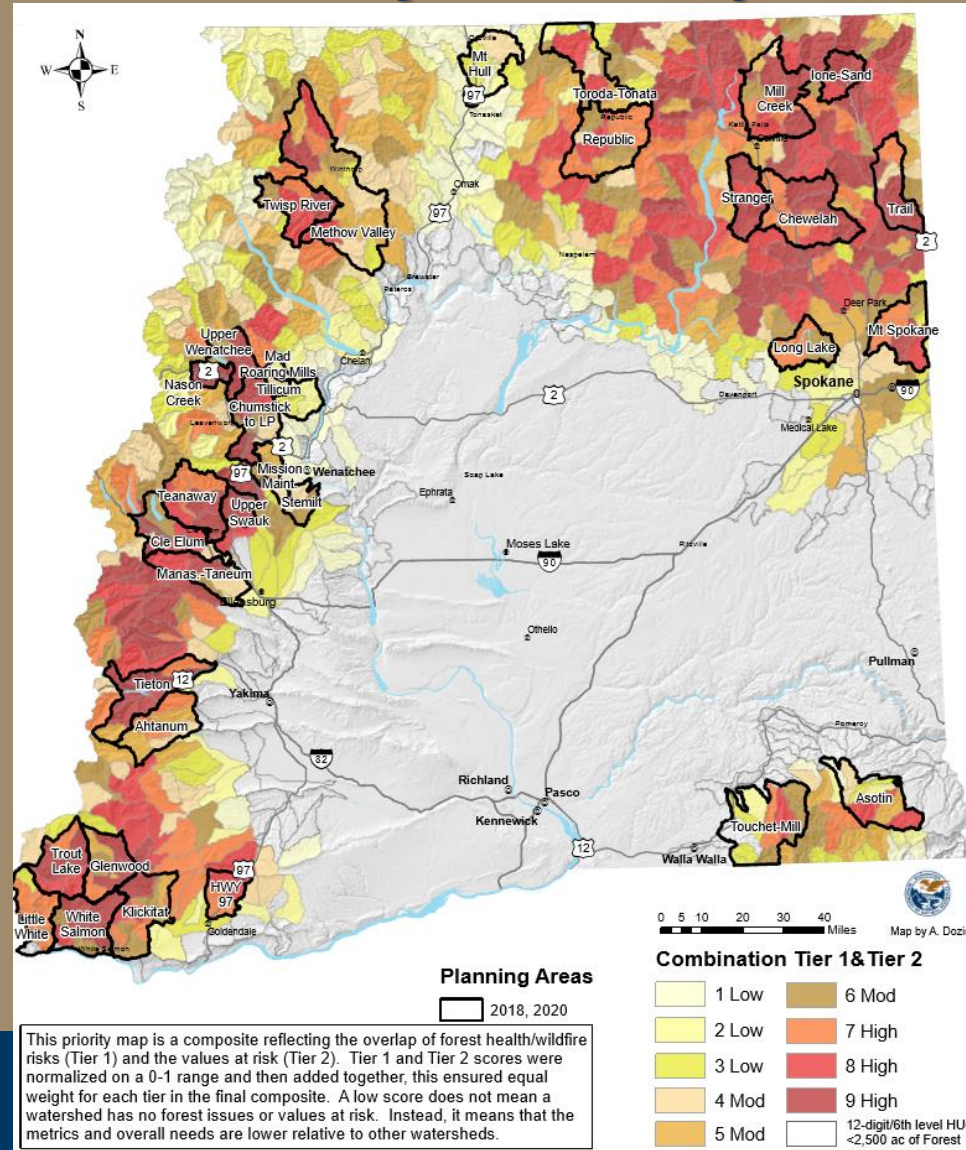
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Eastern Washington

Forest Health Priority Landscapes

- Priority landscapes identified through 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan
- 33 Priority Landscapes
- Eastern Washington Shared Stewardship Priority Landscapes



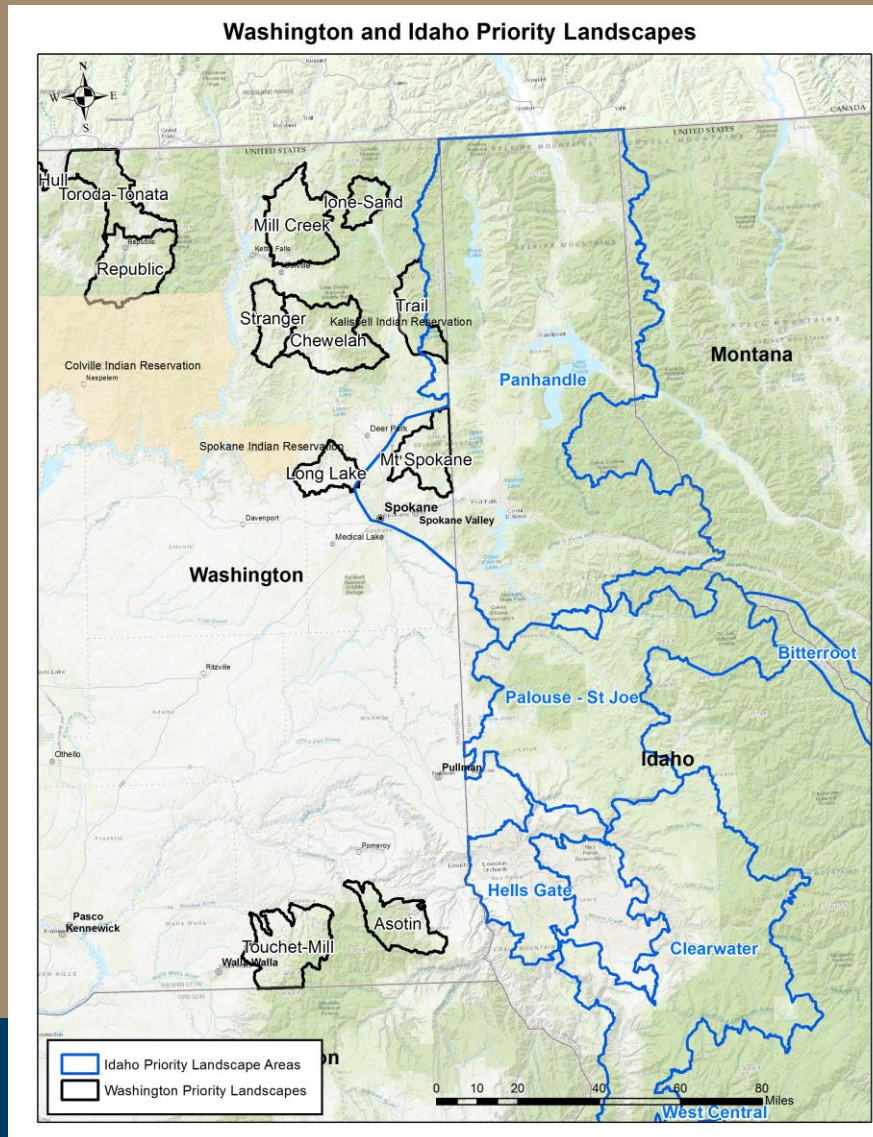
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Washington-Idaho

Forest Health Priority Landscapes

- Shared Stewardship Priority Areas
- Leverage federal resources to accelerate forest health treatments
- Focus on federal and non-industrial private forestlands

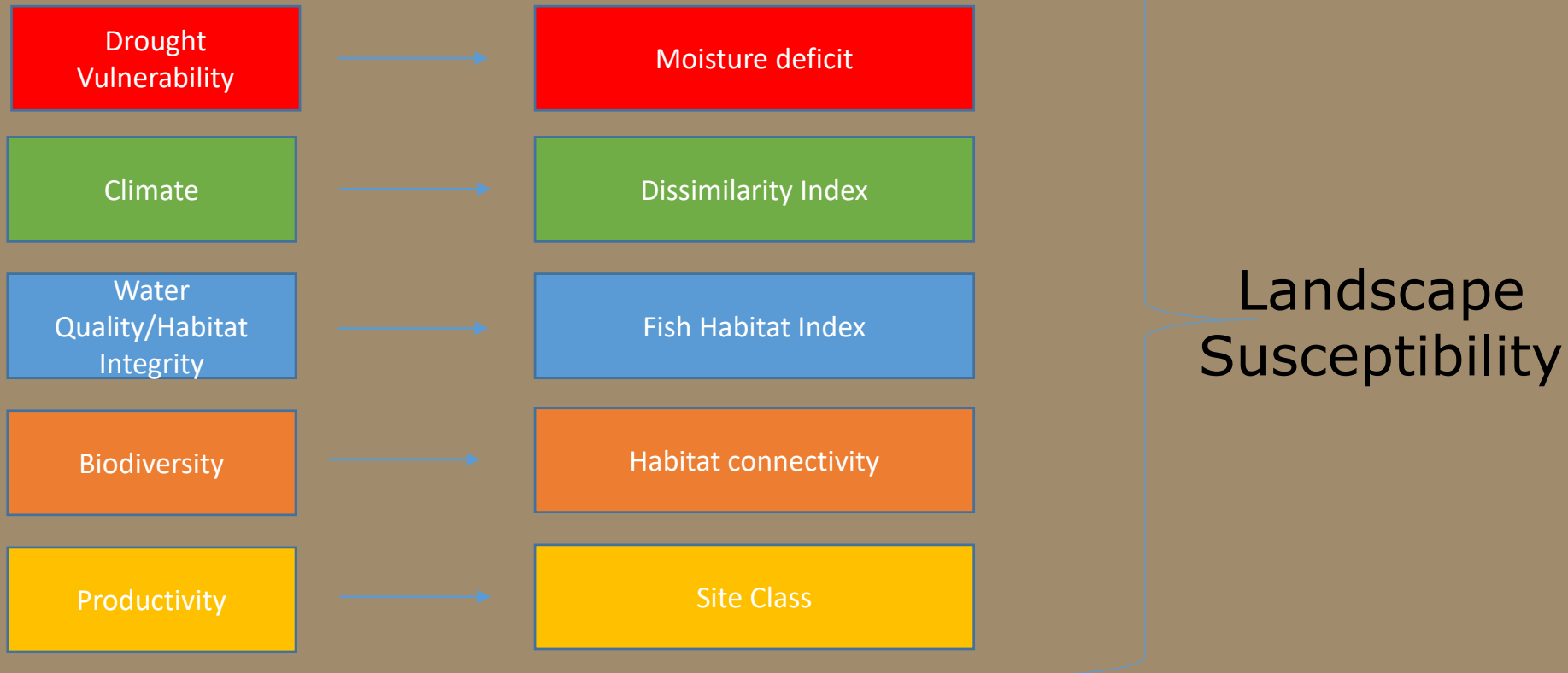


Western Washington Forest Health and Resilience

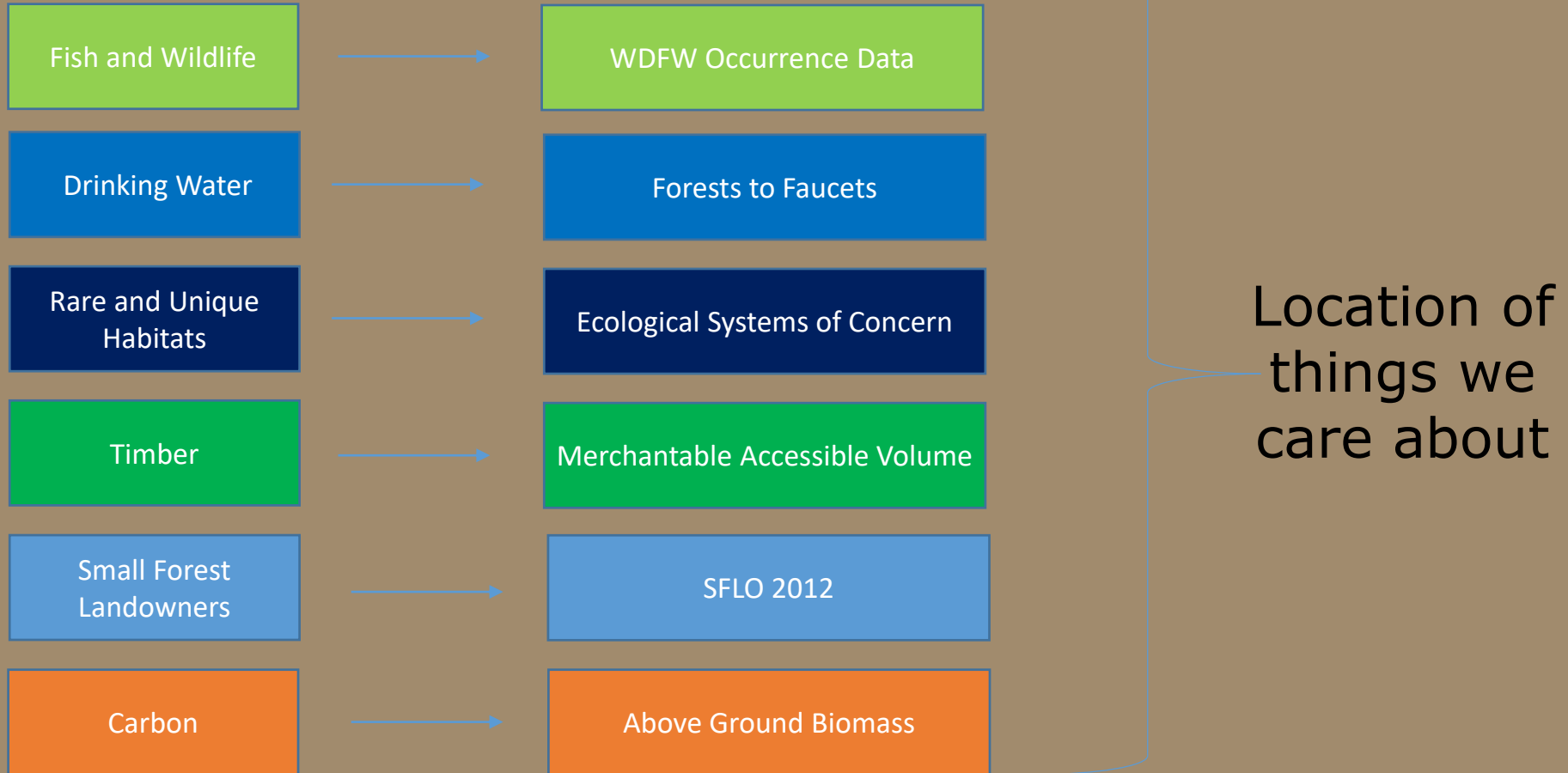
*Where will active management,
coordinated planning and implementation,
and focused investments lead to improved
conditions?*



Western Washington Landscape Resilience Indicators

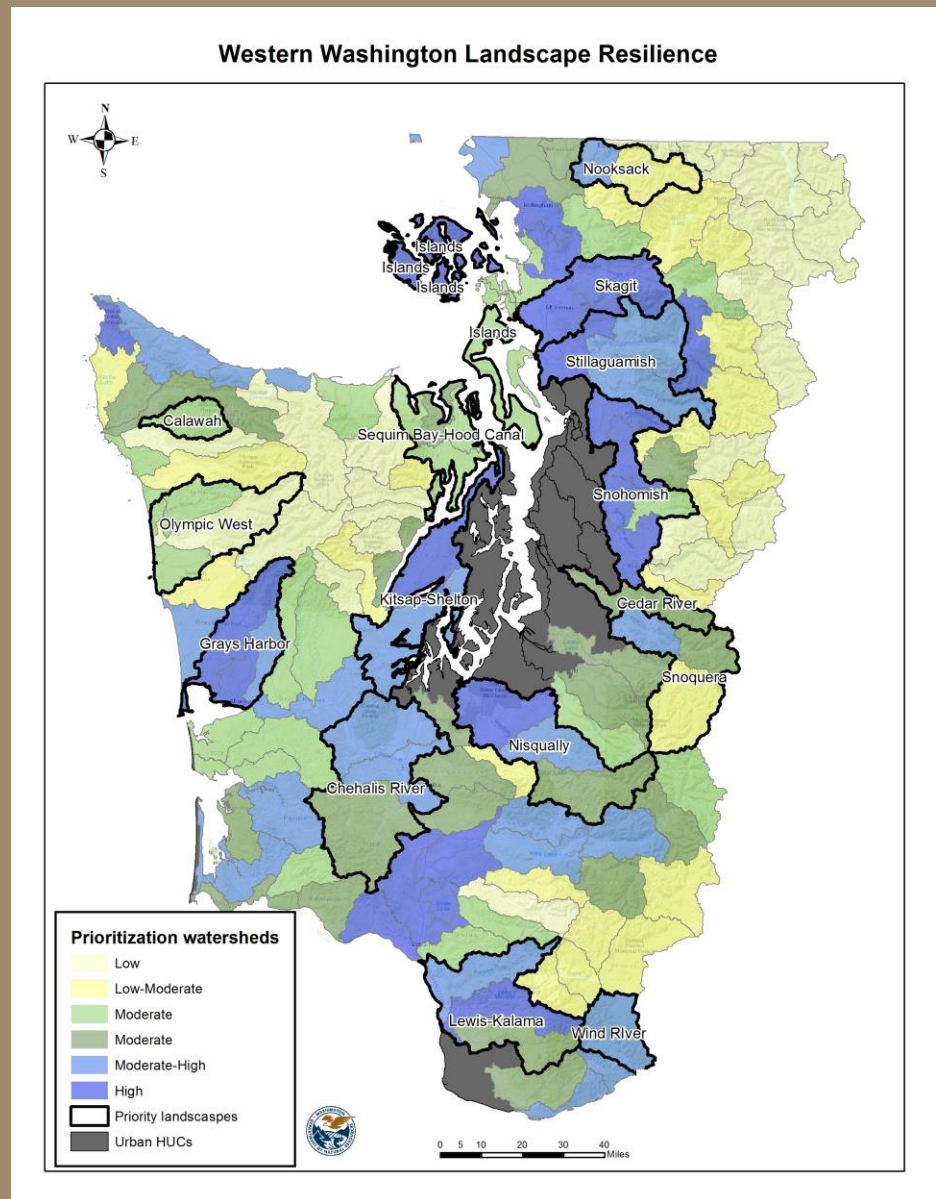


Western Washington Values at Risk



Western Washington Priority Landscapes

- Implement Shared Stewardship
- Utilize programs, tools, and resources available to support forest health.
- Focus on National Forest System and with Small Forest Landowners.



DRAFT June 1, 2020



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Priority Landscapes

Gray's Harbor

Priority landscape for uplands forest management and restoration, salmon recovery, and small forest landowners.

Snoquera

Pilot area to test use of innovative conservation finance tools to accelerate implementation of integrated forest health, aquatic restoration, and recreation projects.

Islands (San Juans and Whidbey Island)

Restore unique habitat, conduct forest health treatments to reduce risk of drought and wildfire.



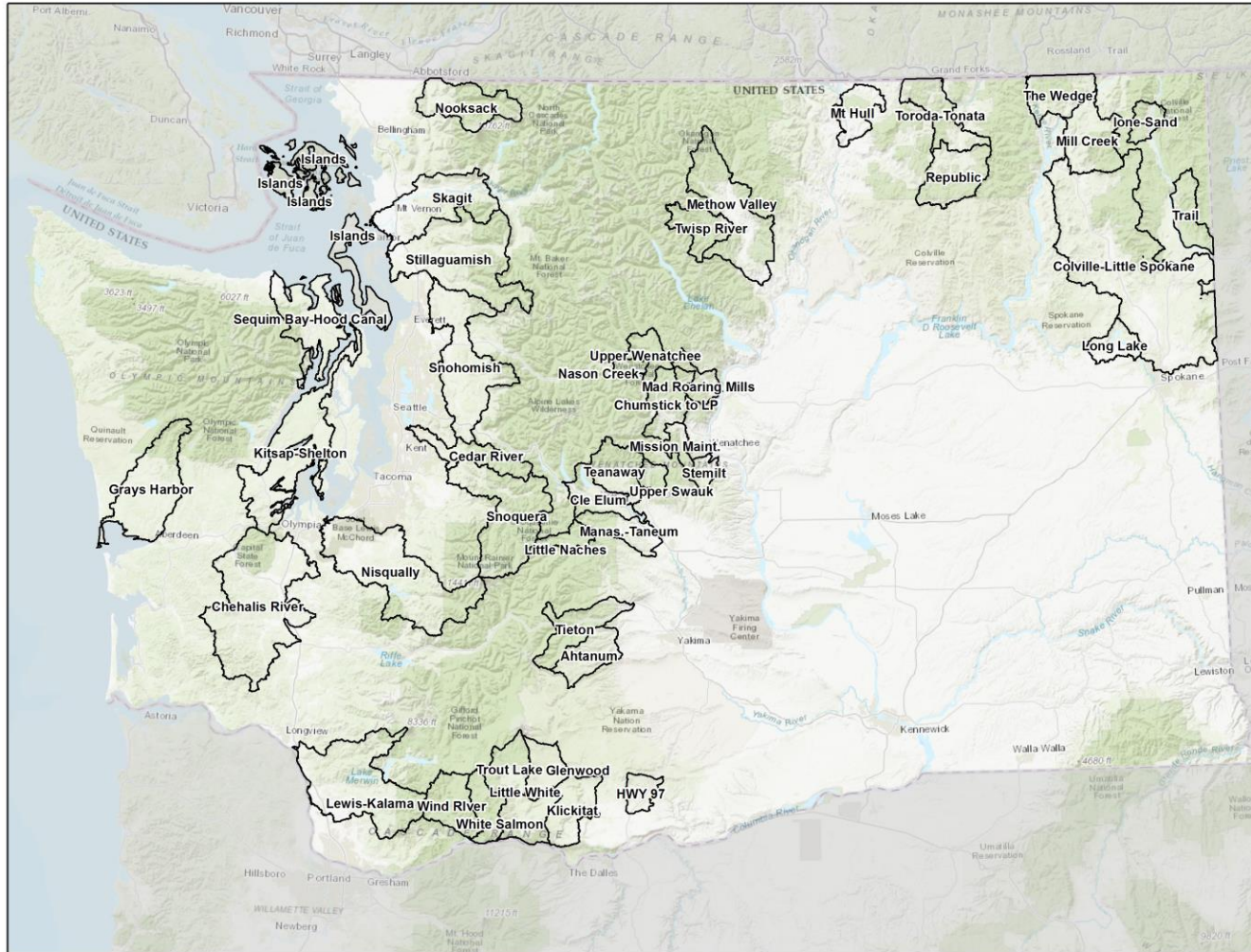
Photo Credit: NNRG



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Forest Stewardship Program



In review...

- This action plan is the roadmap to implement Shared Stewardship Investment Strategy.
- Builds on and reinforces agency commitment to existing plans and strategies.
- Establishes foundation for focused and coordinated planning and implementation in priority landscapes across the state.



Thank you!



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